

Cal/Ecotox  
Exposure Factors for Snowy Plover (Charadrius alexandrinus)\*

Page 1

Endpoint Type	Endpoint Value	Error	Range	Units	Sex	Life Stage	Location	Note	Reference
Body Weight - Mean	42.2	3.0 SD		g	F	Adult	SPAIN	a	1
Body Weight - Mean	43.1	2.8 SD		g	M	Adult	SPAIN	b	1
Body Weight - Mean			33.2-34.0	g	NR	Adult	Lab	c	2
Body Weight - Mean	6.33	0.56 SD	5.3-7.6	g	B	Hatchling	SPAIN	d	1
Clutch or Litter Size	3		2-4	eggs/clutch	F	Adult	Monterey; CA	e	3
Clutch or Litter Size	3		2-5	eggs/clutch	F	Adult	UT	f	4
Clutch or Litter Size	2.55	0.69 SD	1-3	eggs/clutch	F	Adult	MEXICO	g	5
Clutch or Litter Size	2.63		1-3	eggs/clutch	F	Adult	SPAIN	h	1
Clutch or Litter Size	2.69 (1991), 2.54 (1992)			chicks/nest	B	Hatchling	SPAIN	i	1
Clutches or Litters per year	2			clutches/yr	F	Adult	Mono; CA	j	6
Duration of Incubation or Gestation	26.9		25-32	d	B	Embryo	Mono; CA	k	6
Duration of Incubation or Gestation	27.4	0.2 SE	26-32	d	B	Embryo	Monterey; CA	l	3
Fledging or Weaning Rate	1.87			chicks/brood	F	Adult	UT	m	4
Fledging or Weaning Rate	19.3%			%	B	Both Adult and Juv.	SPAIN	n	1
Fledging or Weaning Rate	2.0			fledglings/brood	NR	Fledgling	Marin; CA	o	7
Fledging or Weaning Rate	1.64			fledglings/brood	NR	Fledgling	Mono; CA	p	6
Fledging or Weaning Rate			39-42	d	NR	Fledgling	Monterey; CA	q	3
Fledging or Weaning Rate	92.7			%	NR	Juvenile	Monterey; CA	r	3
Foraging Distance	177	25%-75% quartiles=64-466	up to 3770	m	F	Adult	UT	s	4
Foraging Distance	272	25%-75% quartiles=110-580	up to 2030	m	M	Adult	UT	t	4
Growth Rate	0.105			g/day per g body mass	B	Juvenile	SPAIN	u	1
Hatching Success	27.6% (1991), 16.1% (1992)			%	B; B	Both Adult and Juv.; Embryo	SPAIN; SPAIN	v	1
Hatching Success	27.6% (1991), 16.1% (1992)			%	B; B	Both Adult and Juv.; Embryo	SPAIN; SPAIN	w	1
Hatching Success	37			%	NR	Hatchling	Marin; CA	x	7
Hatching Success			39.5-68.2	%	NR	Hatchling	Mono; CA	y	6
Hatching Success	55.2			%	NR	Hatchling	Monterey; CA	z	3
Hatching Success	58.2			%	NR	Hatchling	Monterey; CA	aa	3
Hatching Success	1.73	0.78 SD	1-3	chicks/brood	NR	Hatchling	MEXICO	ab	5
Hatching Success	13			%	NR	Hatchling	OR	ac	8
Longevity	2.7			yr	B	Adult	UT	ad	9
Longevity	7-00			yr-mo	NR	Adult	USA	ae	10
Population Density			0.054-0.275	nests/ha	B	Adult	UT	af	11
Population Density			0.078-0.493	nests/ha	B	Adult	UT	ag	11
Population Density	6.2 (fall), 19.2 (winter), 6.6 (spring)			birds/ha	NR	NR	Marin; CA	ah	12
Population Density	1.9 (fall), 3.4 (winter), 1.1 (spring)			birds/ha	NR	NR	Marin; CA	ai	12
Population Density			0.45-7.73	birds/km	NR	NR	CA	aj	13

Endpoint Type	Endpoint Value	Error	Range	Units	Sex	Life Stage	Location	Note	Reference
Population Density			0.24-2.51	birds/km	NR	NR	CA	ak	13
Survival/ Mortality	0.743				B	Adult	Monterey; CA	al	6
Survival/ Mortality	0.687				B	Adult	UT	am	9
Survival/ Mortality	72.6			%	F	Adult	Monterey; CA	an	3
Survival/ Mortality	0.778				M	Adult	Mono; CA	ao	6
Survival/ Mortality	78.6			%	M	Adult	Monterey; CA	ap	3
Survival/ Mortality	0.643				NR	Juvenile	Marin; CA	aq	6
Territory Size	<0.5			ha	B	Adult	Monterey; CA	ar	3
Time of Fledging or Metamorphosis	30.9		29-33	d	NR	Fledgling	Monterey; CA	as	3
Time of Mating/ Laying	April, May				B	Adult	OR	at	8
Time of Mating/ Laying	April 18 to July 15				F	Adult	Mono; CA	au	6
Time of Mating/ Laying	Mar 23 to Jul 13				F	Adult	Monterey; CA	av	3
Time of Mating/ Laying	Apr 10-Jul 18				F	Adult	UT	aw	4
Time of Mating/ Laying	March 29-June 25 (1991), March 11-June 29 (1992)				F	Adult	SPAIN	ax	1
Time of Migration or Dispersal	Mar 9 (females), Mar 24 (males)				B	Adult	Monterey; CA	ay	3
Time of Migration or Dispersal	late Mar to mid Jun				F	Adult	UT	az	4
Time of Migration or Dispersal	late Mar to May 31; Jul 1-15				M	Adult	UT	ba	4
Time of Migration or Dispersal	early March to April 26				NR	Adult	Monterey; CA	bb	14
Time of Migration or Dispersal	early to late March				NR	Adult	CA	bc	15
Time of Nesting	April 18 to July 6				B	Adult	Mono; CA	bd	6
Water Ingestion Rate	20			%	NR	Adult	Lab	be	2

- Notes**
- a mean body weight; N=158; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
  - b mean body weight; N=154; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
  - c range in average body weights of treatment groups; N=3-4 birds/group
  - d mean body weight at hatching; N=47; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
  - e most frequent clutch size; N=171 nests; Pajaro River Mouth
  - f modal clutch size; N=327 clutches; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County
  - g mean clutch size; N=36 nests; May-Jun; Baja California peninsula
  - h clutch size; N=316 nests; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain; 73.4% of nests contained 3 eggs.
  - i mean numbers of chicks hatched per successful nest; N=26 (1991), 35 (1992) nests; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
  - j number of clutches laid by 30 out of 81 total nesting females; N=81 nesting females; Apr to Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m)
  - k incubation period; N=9 nests; Apr to Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m)
  - l average incubation period (measured from last egg laid to last egg hatched); N=57 nests; Pajaro River Mouth; Earlier nests averaged longer incubation periods than later nests.
  - m average number of chicks fledged per successful brood; N=3 yrs data collection; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County; Mean annual nest success (Mayfield method) was 5.4-49.2% (Howard Slough), 11.3-38.1% (Layton Marsh)
  - n Percent of nests in which at least one chick hatched.; N=316 nests; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
  - o number of young fledged per successful brood; N=35 nests; Point Reyes; Seventy-nine percent of broods fledged young.
  - p number of chicks fledged per successful brood (for one year); N=22 nests; Apr to Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m)
  - q percent of hatched chicks that fledged (over 6 years); N=296 chicks; Pajaro River Mouth
  - r percent of 16 day old chicks that fledged; N=124 birds; Pajaro River Mouth; Most chick mortality occurred before 6 days of age (see citation for figure of proportion of chicks lost by age).
  - s median foraging distance from nest; N=192 observations; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County
  - t median foraging distance from nest; N=266 observations; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County
  - u growth rate; N=42; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
  - v percent of all eggs that hatched; N=254 (1991), 554 (1992) eggs; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain

w	percent of all eggs that hatched; N=254 (1991), 554 (1992) eggs; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
x	percent of eggs that hatched; N=35 nests; Point Reyes; Forty percent of nests hatched at least one egg.
y	range in percent of clutches hatching at least one chick (over 4 years); N=NR; Apr or May to Aug or Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m)
z	percent of all eggs that hatched (over 6 years); N=534 eggs; Pajaro River Mouth
aa	percent of clutches in which at least one egg hatched (over six years); N=189 nests; Pajaro River Mouth
ab	average number of chicks per successful brood; N=119 broods; May-Jun; Baja California peninsula
ac	proportion of nests with at least one egg hatching; N=72 nests; coast
ad	mean life expectancy for an adult plover, based on survival estimate; N=361 birds captured over 3 yrs; Great Salt Lake
ae	from USFWS Bird Banding Laboratory data; N=35 band recoveries
af	range (over 4 years) in maximum number of nests active on one day per total area of potential nesting habitat; N=4 survey years; Howard Slough, Great Salt Lake
ag	range (over 4 years) in maximum number of nests active on one day per total area of potential nesting habitat; N=4 survey years; West Layton Marsh, Great Salt Lake
ah	mean population density; N=10 seasons censused; fall, winter, spring; Limantour Estero; Higher density at Limantour vs. Bolinas was due to greater availability of sandy habitat at Limantour.
ai	mean population density; N=5 seasons censused; fall, winter, spring; Bolinas Lagoon, Point Reyes National Seashore
aj	number of wintering birds per km of sandy beach surveyed; N=54.5-200.2 km per survey region; Nov 1-Feb 28; mainland coast
ak	number of breeding birds per km of sandy beach surveyed; N=54.5-200.2 km per survey region; mainland coast
al	minimum annual survival rate of marked individuals (2 years and both sexes pooled); N=101 birds; Apr or May to Aug or Sep; Monterey Bay
am	estimated average annual adult survival probability (using Jolly-Seber model); N=361 birds captured over 3 yrs; Great Salt Lake
an	percent annual survival; N=73 birds; Pajaro River Mouth
ao	minimum annual survival rates of marked individuals; N=18 birds; Apr or May to Aug or Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m)
ap	percent annual survival; N=56 birds; Pajaro River Mouth
aq	minimum annual survival rate of marked individuals; N=14 birds; Apr or May to Aug or Sep; Point Reyes
ar	defended nesting territory size on salt pan habitat; N=NR; Pajaro River Mouth
as	fledging period, measured from hatch to first flight of at least 3 m; N=22 birds; Pajaro River Mouth
at	months of peak nest initiation activity, 2 years; N=2-15 nests/colony/year; coast
au	period of time from beginning to end of egg laying for one year; N=9 nests; Apr to Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m)
av	period between onset and end of egg laying; N=6-84 clutches laid/month; Pajaro River Mouth
aw	egg-laying period; N=3 yrs data collection; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County
ax	length of egg laying season in two sample years; N=NR; Fuente de Piedra lake, s. Spain
ay	mean dates of spring migrant arrival to breeding grounds; N=44 males, 59 females; Pajaro River Mouth; Period of arrival ranged from Jan 6 to Apr 27.
az	period of migrant arrival to breeding grounds; N=3 yrs data collection; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County
ba	peaks of migrant arrival to breeding grounds; N=3 yrs data collection; Mar to Aug; Great Salt Lake, Davis County
bb	period during which most color-banded birds left the study area; N=19 birds; spring; Pajaro Dunes, Monterey Bay; See citation for state-wide census data.
bc	timing of first influx of spring migrants to interior breeding areas; N=NR; See citation for winter counts of birds in various inland locations of California.
bd	period between beginning of egg laying and observation of first fledgling for one year; N=NR; Apr to Sep; Mono Lake (elev. 1,940 m); No data collected on date of last fledgling.
be	daily distilled water consumption as percent of body weight; N=NR; Food contained 9.5-12% moisture. Water intake increased with increasing salinity in water.

References

1 Fraga, Rosendo M., and Juan A. Amat. 1996. Breeding biology of a kentish plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) population in an inland saline lake. 43(1):69-85.

2 Purdue, James R. and Howard Haines. 1977. Salt water tolerance and water turnover in the snowy plover. Auk. 94:248-255.

3 Warriner, John S., Jane C. Warriner, Gary W. Page and Lynne E. Stenzel. 1986. Mating system and reproductive success of a small population of polygamous snowy plovers. Wilson Bull. 98(1):15-37.

4 Paton, Peter W.C. 1995. Breeding biology of snowy plovers at Great Salt Lake, Utah. Wilson Bull. 107(2):275.

5 Palacios, Eduardo, Lucia Alfaro and Gary W. Page. 1994. Distribution and abundance of breeding snowy plovers on the Pacific coast of Baja California. J. Field Ornithol. 65(4):490-497.

6 Page, Gary W., Lynne E. Stenzel, David W. Winkler and Christopher W. Swarth. 1983. Spacing out at Mono Lake: Breeding success, nest density, and predation in the snowy plover. Auk. 100:13-24.

7 Page, Gary W. and Lynne E. Stenzel. 1979. Status and breeding biology of the snowy plover *charadrius alexandrinus* in California. Wader Study Group Bull. 27:38-39.

8 Wilson-Jacobs, Ruth and E. Charles Meslow. 1984. Distribution, abundance, and nesting characteristics of Snowy Plovers on the Oregon Coast. Northwest Sci. 58(1):40-48.

9 Paton, Peter W.C. 1994. Survival estimates for snowy plovers breeding at Great Salt Lake, Utah. Condor. 96:1106-1109.

10 Clapp, Roger B., M. Kathleen Klimkiewicz and John H. Kennard. 1982. Longevity records of North American birds: Gaviidae through Alcidae. J. Field Ornithol. 53(2):81-124.

11 Paton, Peter W.C., and Thomas C. Edwards, Jr. 1996. Factors affecting interannual movements of snowy plovers. Auk. 113(3):534-543.

12     Page, Gary W., Lynne E. Stenzel and Claire M. Wolfe. 1979. Aspects of the occurrence of shorebirds on a central California estuary. Sci. Total Environ. 2:15-32.

13     Page, Gary W., Frances C. Bidstrup, Robert J. Ramer and Lynne E. Stenzel. 1986. Distribution of wintering snowy plovers in California and adjacent states. West. Birds. 17(4):145-170.

14     Page, Gary W., and Lynne E. Stenzel. 1981. The breeding status of the snowy plover in California. West. Birds. 12(1):1-40.

15     Shuford, David W., Gary W. Page and Catherine M. Hickey. 1995. Distribution and abundance of snowy plovers wintering in the interior of California and adjacent states. West. Birds. 26:82-98.

\*Cal/EPA, OEHHA and the University of California Regents are not responsible for damages of any kind resulting from the use of or reliance on information in this report. Users are encouraged to consult the original data. Updated: February 1999.